

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 24-26, 27-30, and 33-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Jakobsson et al. ("Jakobsson"). Claims 5, 13, 16, 20, 22, 23, 31 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jakobsson. In addition, the Examiner indicated that claims 16 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of its base claim and any intervening claims.

Revisions to Claims 1, 12, 24, 27 and 33

Independent claims 1, 12, 24, 27 and 33 were revised to correct for some grammatical errors. These revisions are not related to the patentability of these claims.

The Rejections Based on Sections 102 and 103

The present invention is directed at methods and devices for switching among wireless audio sources which comprises, among other things, the selection of one of a plurality of audio signals for output, where the selection is carried out according to at least one stored selection instruction which includes a designated triggering event that triggers the selection.

Jakobsson does not disclose, teach or suggest the selection of one of a plurality of input audio signals according to at least one stored selection instruction which includes a designated triggering event, as in independent claims 1, 12, 24, 27 and 33 and their dependent claims. Instead, Jakobsson discloses "messages" which appear to include audio signals, that may be

ignored by one or more devices when a "network descriptor" is different from a network descriptor related to a piconet which contains the devices (see paragraphs 18 and 19 of Jakobsson). This network descriptor is described as being a Channel Access Code (see paragraph 4 of Jakobsson).

Jakobsson does not disclose, teach or suggest that these messages are, or can be, used to select one of a plurality of signals based on a triggering event. Instead, these messages are used to authorize a device to receive one, or all, of any number of audio signals so long as the message contains an appropriate network descriptor without regard to a triggering event.

As such, Jakobsson does not disclose or teach each and every element of the claimed inventions and therefore cannot anticipate the claimed inventions.

In addition, there is no suggestion in Jakobsson that the messages or network descriptors can be used to select one of a plurality of input audio signals using a designated triggering event to trigger the selection, as in the claims of the present invention.

Jakobsson's main concern is ensuring that devices operating in one piconet do not interfere with devices operating in a second piconet. Jakobsson achieves this by assigning a specific network descriptor to each piconet. Jakobsson is wholly unconcerned with the selection of a particular audio signal from a plurality of audio signals based on a triggering event, as in the present invention.

In sum, claims 1-36 would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art upon reading the disclosure of Jakobsson.

New Claims 37-48

New claims 37-48 include the feature that the “plurality of input audio signals” originate “from the same network.”

In contrast, the signals in Jakobsson originate from two or more networks, each associated with their own network descriptor. Because of this, Jakobsson must first compare network descriptors before a message (audio signal) is received. If all of the audio signals in Jakobsson come from the same network, as in the present invention, there would be no need for Jakobsson's network descriptors. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 37-48 are patentable over Jakobsson because Jakobsson does not teach, disclose or suggest methods or devices that select an audio signal from a plurality of audio signals based on a triggering event, where all of the signals originate from the same network, as in claims 37-48.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1-48.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

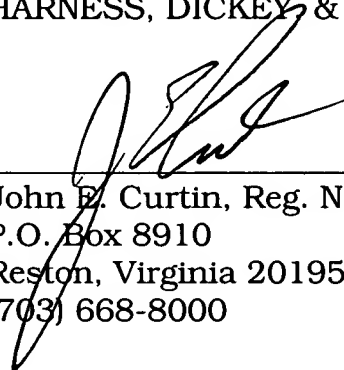
In the event this Response does not place the present application in condition for allowance, applicant requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 to schedule a personal interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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